for the treatment of tumour-induced hypercalcaemia

- Reliable response
  "Calcium concentration fell in all patients [n=30] and was restored to normal in all but two"\

- Sustained effectiveness
  Normocalcaemia maintained for an average of 3 weeks\(^1\)

- Well tolerated
  Reported side-effects not of clinical relevance\(^1,2\)

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Presentation
Ampoules of 5ml aqueous injectable concentrate containing 15mg pamidronate disodium (calculated as the anhydrous form) for intravenous infusion.

Indication
Tumour-induced hypercalcaemia.

Dosage
Adults and elderly: Depending on the initial calcium plasma level, 15-90mg by slow intravenous infusion in sodium chloride 0.9% or dextrose 5%. Infusion rate should not exceed 15mg/2 hours, and concentration should not exceed 90mg/l. Total dose can be given as a single i.v. infusion or divided over 2-4 consecutive days. Not recommended for children. Rehydration with normal saline before treatment is recommended.

Contraindications
Known hypersensitivity to pamidronate disodium.

Precautions
Do not administer as a bolus injection. Do not co-administer with other bisphosphonates, plicamycin (mithramycin) or calcium-containing i.v. infusions. Beware of slight transient hypocalcaemia when the dose given is too high in relation to initial plasma calcium levels. Caution in patients with severe renal insufficiency (multiple dosing recommended); convulsions; oliguria; pregnancy; interference with bone scintigraphy examinations.

Side-effects
Mild, transient 1-2°C temperature rise at onset of treatment, transient decreased lymphocyte count; neither appears to be clinically significant.

Packs
Ampoules 15mg/5ml (PL0001/0138) in packs of 4, basic NHS price £96.62. \(^\circ\)denotes registered trademark. Full prescribing information is available on request from Ciba Laboratories, Horsham, West Sussex.

References